GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:1076
ANSWERED ON:04.12.2015
Arthritis and Bone-Related Diseases
Chowdhary Shri Pankaj;Galla Shri Jayadev;Khadse Smt. Raksha Nikhil

Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether a number of people are suffering from arthritis including rheumatoid arthritis and other bone related diseases in the country;

(b) if so, the details thereof along with the reasons therefor indicating the estimated number of such patients in the country, State/UT-wise;

(c) whether the Government has conducted any research/survey in this regard, particularly to ascertain high uric acid and C-Reactive Protein (CRP) levels in Indian patients, if so, the details and the outcome thereof;

(d) whether the Government proposes to include arthritis in the National Health Programme and provide financial assistance to such needy patients keeping in view the huge expenses involved in its treatment, and if so, the details thereof; and

(e) the other measures being taken by the Government for affordable treatment of arthritis and other bone related diseases, development of diagnostic and treatment technology for rheumatoid arthritis rather than osteoarthritis and also regular training of orthopaedic doctors in the country?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE
(SHRI JAGAT PRAKASH NADDA)
(a) & (b): Information regarding the number of people suffering from arthritis including rheumatoid arthritis and other bone related diseases in the country is not maintained centrally.
(c): No
(d) & (e): Health being a State subject, it is primarily the responsibility of the State governments to provide health care for the patients. However, the Central Government through the hospitals under it, supplements the efforts of the State Governments.

Facilities to attend to arthritis patients are available at the Central Government hospitals like All India Institute of Medical Sciences (AIIMS), Delhi, Dr. Ram Manohar Lohia Hospital, Delhi, Safdarjung Hospital, Delhi, Jawaharlal Institute of Post Graduate Medical Education and Research (JIPMER), Puducherry and Post Graduate Institute of Medical Education and Research (PGIMER), Chandigarh, NEIGRIHMS, Shillong and RIMS,Imphal.

Under PMSSY 6 new AIIMS have been set up and upgradation of identified medical colleges has been undertaken which will also improve health care related to treatment of bone related diseases.